

## HOUSE BILL NO. 103

INTRODUCED BY A. OLSON, BIXBY, CYR, GLASER, LAWSON, LEHMAN, LENHART,  
PATTISON, RIPLEY

BY REQUEST OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING FOR MULTIYEAR ACCREDITATION OF SCHOOLS;  
REQUIRING COMPLIANCE WITH TEACHER CERTIFICATION LAWS IN ORDER TO RECEIVE MULTIYEAR  
ACCREDITATION; PROVIDING FOR ACCREDITATION OF 7TH AND 8TH GRADES FUNDED AT HIGH  
SCHOOL RATES; AND AMENDING SECTION 20-7-102, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 20-7-102, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-7-102. Accreditation of schools.** (1) ~~Every school year the~~ The conditions under which each elementary school, each middle school, each junior high school, 7th and 8th grades funded at high school rates, and each high school operates ~~shall~~ must be reviewed by the superintendent of public instruction to determine ~~each school's~~ compliance with the standards of accreditation. The accreditation status of every school ~~shall~~ must then be established by the board of public education upon the recommendation of the superintendent of public instruction, ~~and notification.~~ Notification of such the accreditation status for the applicable school year ~~shall~~ or years must be given to each district BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

(2) A school may be accredited for a period consisting of 1, 2, ~~or~~ 3, 4, OR 5 school years, EXCEPT THAT MULTIYEAR ACCREDITATION MAY ONLY BE GRANTED TO SCHOOLS THAT ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH 20-4-101.

(3) A nonpublic school may, through its governing body, request that the board of public education accredit the school. Nonpublic schools may be accredited in the same manner as provided in subsection (1).

(4) As used in this section, "7th and 8th grades funded at high school rates" means an elementary school district or K-12 district elementary program whose 7th and 8th grades are funded as provided in 20-9-306(10)(c)(i)."

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